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Subject: Get in the Game!

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Get in the Game!

44 years ago, congress amended the constitution to give 18-year-olds the right to vote.

As many of us remember this was largely due to the Vietnam War, in which many young men who were ineligible to vote were drafted to fight in the war. The common slogan back then was "Old enough to fight, old enough to vote." While the emotional arguments about the draft have faded, important issues still face young adults. That's why I've been concerned with the gradual decline in the number of 18-year-olds adding their voice to the political process.

In last year's general election only 4% of the total number of votes came from those 18-25 years old. That's down 4% or 100,000 votes less than 2012. Those 100,000 votes could have been the difference in each and every legislative district and nearly every statewide race, including mine!

To try and turn this disturbing trend around we've developed an outreach program specifically designed to plant the seeds of civic responsibility and participation in the minds of the next generation of voters.

One component of our effort was a strategic partnership with the Phoenix Mercury. The special collaboration culminated with 4,000 school age kids participating in a mock election during one of the Mercury's recent games. The kids voted on important topics like who is their favorite player, favorite giveaway and favorite part of the game. While the choices facing the young voters were hardly acrimonious, we hope the experience begins to reinforce the idea their voice does matter and voting does make a difference!

Over the next few years we'll continue our effort to educate voters of all ages with the

goal of improving statewide voter turnout. Our future depends on it!





Arizona Capitol Museum Store launches online

Secretary of State Michele Reagan announced the grand opening of www.azcapitolgifts.com, the online component of the Arizona Capitol Museum Store.

WATCH



Slight rise in voter registration

The latest voter registration figures have been released and according to Secretary of State Michele Reagan, the number of registered voters has grown to 3,252,687 registered voters, an increase of 16,997 since the last report in April.

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